

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND
IDEALS HIGHLIGHTED THROUGH
NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK

SPEECH OF

HON. TODD TIAHRT

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 17, 2007

Mr. TIAHRT. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of National Volunteer Week. Our communities across the country are a better place because of the commitment of America's volunteers. Being a volunteer means giving your time unconditionally and having a heart full of compassion. Many times this giving person doesn't receive any sort of thanks or gratitude, but still continues to give what they can to their community without receiving recognition.

Today, I would like to recognize and thank Treatha Brown-Foster from the 4th District of Kansas for all her diligent work. Treatha has a diverse portfolio of programs and activities for which she volunteers. A few programs she participates in include: procuring funding for the Christmas Treasures Fund for the Boys and Girls Club, motivating the public to cooperate with law enforcement agencies as a member of the Crime Stoppers Board, and serving on the Board of Governors for the Dwight D. Eisenhower Excellence in Public Service Series.

Treatha's commitment to her community is remarkable. At a time when it seems many people are focused on themselves, it is refreshing to see people like Treatha, who want to do more for others and do so with joy in their hearts and smiles on their faces. Much of this service goes unrecognized, so today I thank Treatha and others like her for their hard work and compassion.

I encourage my colleagues to promote National Volunteer Week and thank the many millions of Americans who dedicate themselves to bettering our communities. As the saying goes, "Volunteers don't get paid; not because they're worthless but because they're priceless." God bless Treatha Brown-Foster and America's priceless volunteers.

RECOGNIZING APRIL AS OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY MONTH AND THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY TO OUR NATION'S VETERANS

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 18, 2007

Mr. MICHAUD. Madam Speaker, I rise in recognition of April as Occupational Therapy Month and in my capacity as Chairman of the Veteran's Affairs Health Subcommittee, to acknowledge the contributions of occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants to not only our veterans across the country, but also our brave service men and women serving in Iraq and Afghanistan. I would also like to recognize the importance of occupational therapists to the families of our service personnel. We often forget that behind every soldier are loved ones who endure the hardship of the soldier while they are in harm's

way and when they come home and take off the uniform.

Occupational therapy is a profession dedicated to the improvement of function, performance and independence. Occupational therapists work with individuals across their lifespan to prevent injury, restore function and reduce disability so that patients may live satisfying, productive and independent lives.

In my home state of Maine, occupational therapists provide essential health and rehabilitation services to veterans at the Togus Veterans Hospital and at six veterans' homes throughout the state including four in my district located in Augusta, Bangor, Caribou and Machias. Services provided in these locations stem from a range of conditions resulting from traumatic injuries experienced in combat such as amputations and poly-traumas, post-traumatic stress disorder, illness and disease and the disabling effects of aging.

In order to meet the need of veterans, Schools of Occupational Therapy in Maine, such as the Kennebec Valley Community College, work collaboratively with the veterans' facilities in the state to ensure that there are enough trained health care professionals, like occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants, to meet the needs of our veterans.

During the month of April, the American Occupational Therapy Association (AOTA) will be hosting the Association's 87th Annual Conference and Expo in St. Louis, Missouri. Occupational therapists, occupational therapists assistants and students of occupational therapy from around the country will gather to support the profession and further their educational preparation to meet the needs of their patients. State affiliates like the Maine Occupational Therapy Association (MEOTA) will also be represented to ensure that the concerns of local occupational therapy professionals and patients are addressed at the conference. Of specific note, there will be over 500 education sessions including a panel to discuss active duty and veterans health care and the important role of occupational therapy for returning our service men and women to maximum function and independence.

Madam Speaker, please join me in supporting April as occupational therapy month and applauding the work of occupational therapists and occupational therapy assistants with our veterans, military personnel, and their families who deserve to receive the best care possible.

TRIBUTE TO RAHEEM CARTER

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 18, 2007

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of a remarkable individual and policeman, Raheem Carter. After a bout with cancer, died this past Friday while serving in the New London Police Department within my constituency in Connecticut.

Mr. Carter was a leader in the Groton/New London community. Carter was the starting quarterback for three years at Fitch High School, and he also captained the track team. An extraordinary athlete, Carter set the career touchdown passing record in the Eastern Con-

necticut Conference. He shined as a field general, and in 1999, alongside his twin brother Rashaad, he led Fitch to its first championship in over 23 years.

Carter not only prospered on the field, but he surmounted obstacles off the field too. Despite growing up in a challenging neighborhood, Carter excelled in school, following the guidance of his mother who raised three children on her own. Carter attended Central Connecticut University until he received a full scholarship to attend the University of Rhode Island, where he graduated in 2005 with a bachelor's degree in sociology.

From there, Carter went on to attend Connecticut State Police Academy. It was there in December 2005 when a tumor was found in his abdomen. Due to his illness, Carter spent the majority of his first year as a police officer treating his cancer with chemotherapy. Known for his incredible strength, Carter was able to temporarily beat the disease securing enough time to train under New London Police Lt. Margaret Ackley.

Carter was known as a "gentle soul and courageous spirit" with "more heart for the job than anyone Lt. Ackley had ever seen." He was a leader throughout his community seen as "someone who cared more about others than about himself." Johnny L. Burns, pastor of his church, described him as "an exceptional man in every aspect of the word who in the 25 years he lived touched so many lives."

Today I would like to pay tribute to the life and legacy of Mr. Raheem Carter. He will be greatly missed by everyone whose lives he touched.

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND
IDEALS OF FINANCIAL LITERACY
MONTH

SPEECH OF

HON. RUBÉN HINOJOSA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 16, 2007

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following letters regarding H. Res. 273, "Supporting the Goals and Ideals of Financial Literacy Month."

GIRLS INCORPORATED,

New York, NY, April 12, 2007.

Hon. RUBÉN HINOJOSA,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

Hon. JUDY BIGGERT,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE HINOJOSA AND REPRESENTATIVE BIGGERT: Girls Inc. is proud to join you in supporting H. Res. 273, and the ideals and goals of Financial Literacy Month. Financial education is critical to ensuring that individuals gain the skills necessary to assess financial opportunities and successfully manage their money. We applaud you for your leadership on this important bill.

Through our affiliates across the country, Girls Inc. teaches girls and their families important finance skills that help them to understand topics such as banking, saving, and investments, thus helping their future economic security, success, and well-being. We believe girls in particular benefit from opportunities to learn these essential skills. A survey we conducted in 1998 of teenage daughters and their mothers, found that the

number one concern of mothers was they would not have enough money at one point in their lives. Other surveys have shown that girls are less likely than boys to consider themselves "very knowledgeable or confident" about financial issues and money management. Economic and financial literacy is critical to helping girls plan for and achieve economic independence.

We thank you for your commitment to this issue and your understanding of the necessity of such a bill as H. Res. 273.

Sincerely,

JOYCE M. ROCHE,
President and CEO.

FIRST NATIONS OWEESTA CORPORATION,
Rapid City, SD, April 11, 2007.

Hon. RUBÉN HINOJOSA,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

Hon. JUDY BIGGERT,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVES HINOJOSA AND BIGGERT: The Native Financial Education Coalition (NFEC) and First Nations Oweesta Corporation (Oweesta) strongly support your efforts to officially designate April as "Financial Literacy Month". As the national voice advocating for stronger personal financial management skills among Native peoples, the NFEC urges Congress to pass the bipartisan H. Res. 273 as a step toward raising awareness and spurring action toward better financial education in Native communities across the country.

Native communities across the board are lacking in financial education skills, which directly relates to the poverty and other social ills that often define Native peoples in the eyes of others. For example, Native communities are a hotbed for predatory lenders because Native people do not have the skills or awareness to understand the financing and credit process sufficiently, and a large percentage of our families are among the unbanked. We do not, however, have to let this situation define us and our involvement in Financial Literacy Month over the years is one way of taking control of our own lives and moving towards economic sovereignty.

The NFEC and Oweesta believe so strongly in this issue that this month, on April 26th, we will host the 3rd Annual Native Financial Education Policy Briefing in Washington, DC for lawmakers, staffers, Native leaders and others interested in Native financial education. In the past we have intentionally held the Briefing in April to commemorate Financial Literacy Month and see a real benefit to making it officially recognized as such. We commend you for your leadership on this issue and look forward to continuing our work together to make financial education a reality for all Native communities.

Sincerely,

ELSIE MEEKS,
Executive Director, First Nations Oweesta Corporation, Chairperson, Native Financial Education Coalition.

NORTH AMERICAN SECURITIES
ADMINISTRATORS ASSOCIATION, INC.,
Washington, DC, April 6, 2007.

Hon. RUBÉN HINOJOSA,
Washington, DC.

Hon. JUDY BIGGERT,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN HINOJOSA AND CONGRESSWOMAN BIGGERT: On behalf of NASAA

thank you for introducing H. Res. 273, which supports the goals and ideals of Financial Literacy Month. State securities regulators have a long tradition of protecting investors through education, and most have established an investor education department within their regulatory agency. Several of NASAA's Investor Education Section's current activities include: personal finance, investor and fraud prevention education on military installations; empowering senior citizens to spot, stop and avoid financial scams and several initiatives designed to teach youth the value of sound investing principles. Whether offering students the opportunity to understand the workings of Wall Street through the InvestEd stock market game, sponsoring an essay contest on how investing can create financial independence in South Dakota, or reaching out to teens in New Jersey through a Consumer University that teaches investing, regulators are connecting with youth across the country.

As part of the effort to educate our nation's youth, in April, state securities division staffs will join in celebrating "Financial Literacy Month" by visiting schools throughout their state to teach students about personal finance, the capital markets, investment choices and fraud.

Reaching out to our young citizens is just one component of the ongoing financial education effort undertaken by state securities regulators. We are dedicated to improving financial literacy for our constituents of all ages, recognizing that financial education has a direct impact on the economic health of our families, communities, states and this country overall. This year NASAA will be launching a new investor education podcast series as part of Financial Literacy Month. The series, "The Alert Investor," is a resource for the public to learn about investing wisely, avoiding fraud and how to exercise their rights as investors.

We commend you for your continued efforts to draw attention to the importance of financial literacy programs, and NASAA looks forward to participating in Financial Literacy Day on Capitol Hill. Please contact Daphne Smith, Tennessee Securities Commissioner and Chair of NASAA's Investor Education Section, or Deborah House in NASAA's corporate office if we may be of further assistance to you. We look forward to continuing our work with you and your offices on this particular issue.

Sincerely,

JOSEPH P. BORG,
NASAA President,
Director, Alabama Securities Commission.

APRIL 13, 2007.

Hon. RUBÉN HINOJOSA,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

Hon. JUDY BIGGERT,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVES HINOJOSA AND BIGGERT: On behalf of Wells Fargo & Co., I am writing to express our strong support for H. Res. 273, a Resolution that raises awareness and support for financial literacy. Wells Fargo commends the leadership and determination that both of you have demonstrated as leaders of the financial literacy caucus.

Wells Fargo is committed to working with you in addressing the need for financial literacy for all Americans. Wells Fargo's financial literacy program, Hands on Banking® and El futuro en tus manos®, targets all age groups from elementary schools to adults. The program has been developed in collaboration with teachers and administrators across the country. The Department of Education in Texas, Utah and South Carolina has approved this program for school districts in their state. Wells Fargo has also partnered with various non-profit groups to put Hands on Banking and El futuro en tus manos into the hands of those who can benefit the most including: National Council of Economic Education, JumpStart Coalition, Navajo Nation in Arizona and the Mexican Consulates in Texas and California.

Wells Fargo believes the key to economic self-sufficiency is financial education. With this in mind, we are proud to express our support for H. Res 273 and look forward to continuing to team up with you and the House Financial and Economic Literacy Caucus to increase financial education throughout the United States.

Sincerely,

PAMELA ERWIN,
Senior Vice President,
Wells Fargo Foundation.

NATIONAL YOUTH
INVOLVEMENT BOARD,
Aurora, CO, April 16, 2007.

Hon. RUBÉN HINOJOSA,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

Hon. JUDY BIGGERT,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE HINOJOSA AND REPRESENTATIVE BIGGERT: The National Youth Involvement Board is grateful for your co-sponsorship of H. Res. 273, and we share with you the values upheld during Financial Literacy Month. You have been steadfast in leading a surge in attention to Americans' personal financial strength and the financial education each citizen deserves. As an organization that represents and consists of citizens from all walks of life, we proudly share your devotion.

The National Youth Involvement Board (NYIB) is a volunteer network of not-for-profit credit unions, affiliated organizations, and other enthusiasts committed to providing young people the financial fundamentals they need for a lifetime of success. Whether through youth-specific services, classroom presentations, or collaborative efforts with organizations like Junior Achievement Worldwide and the National Endowment for Financial Education, NYIB members have long demonstrated creativity and cooperation toward our common purpose.

We at the National Youth Involvement Board understand that visible national recognition of the need for personal financial literacy is essential to a promising future for America. Your efforts—specifically H. Res. 273—have created exactly that. Thank you!

Sincerely,

JOHN FARIES,
Chairman,
National Youth Involvement Board.

NATIONAL COUNCIL OF HIGHER
EDUCATION LOAN PROGRAMS,
Washington, DC, April 12, 2007.

Hon. RUBÉN HINOJOSA,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

Hon. JUDY BIGGERT,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVES HINOJOSA AND BIGGERT: On behalf of the members of the National Council of Higher Education Loan Programs (NCHELP). I am writing to enthusiastically support House Resolution 273. Our members help millions of students fund higher education each year. We agree with you that it is more important than ever that students and their families have the information and tools necessary to make good financial decisions.

NCHELP members support and share the goal of House Resolution 273 to increase financial literacy among all Americans and to raise public awareness about the importance of a sound financial education. Our members provide information and training to college-bound students all around the country on topics like managing credit and checking accounts, basic credit and budgeting concepts, and personal financial management, better preparing these students to make good financial decisions and borrow responsibly. Materials are made available in Spanish and other languages where needed to ensure all Americans receive this important information on college access and financial literacy. Our members also partner with organizations like the JumpStart Coalition, Junior Achievement and 360 Degrees of Financial Literacy to promote financial education to middle and high school students.

I thank you both for your continued leadership of the Financial and Economic Literacy Caucus and pledge that the members of NCHELP stand ready to assist you and your colleagues in this important endeavor.

Sincerely,

BRETT E. LIEF,
President.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 18, 2007

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Madam Speaker, I was not present for several votes on April 17. I would have voted:

Rollcall No. 216 on H. Con. Res. 100, condemning actions of the Government of Zimbabwe, I would have voted "yea."

Rollcall No. 217 on H. Res. 273, Financial Literacy Month, I would have voted "yea."

Rollcall No. 218 on H. Con. Res. 76, International Geophysical Year, I would have voted "yea."

HAILING THE PATRIOTIC SERVICE OF THE CONGRESSIONAL YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 18, 2007

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, last fall roughly 100 high school students applied to serve on the Third Congress-

sional District's Congressional Youth Advisory Council. A panel of community leaders nominated 43 high school students attending public, private and home schools based on academic achievement, community service, student leadership, outside interests, and the application essay. These 43 have done an outstanding job serving as the voice of their generation. I fondly call this distinguished group "young ambassadors to Congress."

Civil service among young adults remains the cornerstone of our future. These dynamic students are leaders of their peers and achievers in and out of the classroom. They are the future of America and hold tremendous promise. They sacrificed their time to boldly share their hopes and their dreams for our Nation. They should be proud of their commitment and commended for their work.

This year, the members of the CYAC wrote a patriotic essay detailing, "My dream for America" or "The cost of freedom." The country and the Congress must know that high school students in North Texas firmly believe in this mighty Nation and express great optimism for the future. I gladly entrust it to them—the leaders of tomorrow. Their names are listed forever in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. Their country needs them to stand up, speak out, and continue to make a difference in their communities. They are the young leaders who help make America great. God bless you, God bless Texas and God bless America.

Freshmen: James "Wil" Callison and Ian Webber.

Sophomores: John Lipscomb, Evan Rosenfield, Sharan Shetty, and Melissa Stepczyk.

Juniors: Caroline Alvarez, Morgan Bailey, Anna Bashmakov, Susie Choi, Abigail Dekle, Patrick Dyer, John Hollingsworth, Emily Kaufman, Kristy Luk, James MacGibbon, Charlie Manion, Meredith Morgan, Jason Palmatary, David Paxman, Andrew Pedigo, Nirjhor Rahman, and Spencer Wood.

Seniors: Lynzee Benoit, Yoojin Cho, Alyssa DeLorenz, Erik De Sousa, Andrew Graham, Luke Gunderson, Kelli Lafferty, Amanda Lipscomb, David Michael McCleary, Brendan O'Kelly, Benjamin Oppenheim, Rachel Reichenbach, Catherine Russell, Elizabeth Sanford, Jordan Schmittou, Hannah Sedlet, Hansini Sharma, Jennifer Smart, Britney Thomas, and Evan Wise.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO SANDRA LEE THOMPSON

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 18, 2007

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the late Sandra Lee Thompson for her commitment and dedication to the Las Vegas community and being selected by the Clark County School Board to have an elementary school named in her honor.

Sandra Lee Thompson was born in Hanover, Pennsylvania in 1948 and was one of six children. She attended DeLone Catholic High School and then graduated from Pennsylvania State University with a degree in Social Work. She began her career as a reporter in Connecticut, where she met her husband Gary

Thompson in 1973. The couple had one daughter, Kelly, who was the pride and joy of her parents. In 1978, Sandra and her husband moved to Las Vegas and began a long career with the Las Vegas Sun Newspaper. Sandra started out working as a copy and features editor and eventually became managing editor. In 1997, she was promoted to Vice President/Associate Editor for the Las Vegas Sun.

While working for the Las Vegas Sun, Sandra was able to incorporate her love for children into her job. She held hands-on workshops for local high school students at the Sun Youth Forum and she routinely lectured in schools around the valley to educate youth on the field of journalism. Sandra spent the last five years of her career focusing on issues relating to children and families. She was the only journalist in the state to write regularly about children and family issues. Her unwavering commitment to families earned her a reputation for being "the voice of the children" in Nevada. Sandra's efforts to draw attention to important family issues led to legislative changes in child welfare programs and an increase in the cap on child support payments.

Sandra's commitment to children and the family permeated her life. She was truly dedicated to improving the lives of children and youth. In addition to her professional commitment to these issues, she was actively involved in a variety of community organizations and service projects. She focused much of her time in Clark County mentoring students and encouraging them to succeed. She actively participated in projects such as the Las Vegas Sun Camp Fund, Christmas in April, Children's Advocacy Alliance, Clark County Family Court, Raising Nevada and Class! Publications. Additionally, her leadership on the subject of children and family inspired the creation of a scholarship program for Class! Publications and the Mother of the Year Contest.

On August 9th, 2002, Sandra tragically died in an automobile accident. She left a lasting legacy of compassion, service and devotion to children. Her leadership and her steadfast commitment to enriching the lives of others have truly made a difference in Southern Nevada.

Madam Speaker, it is a privilege to honor Sandra Lee Thompson for her profound commitment to children and the family. I am proud that the Clark County School District has chosen to recognize her outstanding contribution to Clark County by naming the Sandra Thompson Elementary School in her honor. I wish the Thompson family and the students, teachers, and administrators at Thompson Elementary the very best as they celebrate the dedication of this special school. I am certain that this educational establishment will live up to the legacy Sandra Thompson has left behind.

HONORING THE MIDDLE COUNTRY PUBLIC LIBRARY

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 18, 2007

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a respected and important landmark in the First Congressional District, the Middle Country Public Library.